STAND. COM. REP. NO.



Honolulu, Hawaii FEB 6 - 2019

RE: S.B. No. 1151

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Thirtieth State Legislature Regular Session of 2019 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.B. No. 1151 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE LOANS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to increase the amount of state funds that the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture may approve for any agricultural and aquacultural loan applicant.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, O'ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and Hawaii Cattlemen's Council.

Your Committee finds that the current agricultural and aquacultural loan cap of \$25,000 has not been updated since the 1980s. Your Committee recognizes that business costs have increased since then.

Your Committee further finds that this measure would provide greater assistance to farmers through the availability of state loans of up to \$100,000. Your Committee also notes that the Department of Agriculture has indicated this measure will enable the Department to respond more quickly to assist applicants during times of emergency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture and Environment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1151 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

MIKE GABBARD, Chair

The Senate Thirtieth Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Agriculture and Environment AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 1151	Committee Referral: AEN, WAM		_	Date: 62.01 - 2019	
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.					
If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GABBARD, Mike (C)		X			
RUDERMAN, Russell E. (VC)		X			
RHOADS, Karl		<u>></u>			
THIELEN, Laura H.		Y /			
FEVELLA, Kurt		X			
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TOTAL		1	0	0	0
Recommendation:	<u> </u>	Not Adopted			
Chair's or Designee's Signature:					
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy					

*Only one measure per Record of Votes